

English AP 11: Language and Composition  
Social/Environmental Issue Research Paper

The Assignment

Of necessity, the instructions for this assignment are somewhat vague. Each student will have to explore different resources and will need to develop an individual approach to the subject. **The goal is a detailed exploration of a social or environmental issue impacting our world today.**

Length

The minimum length for this assignment is EIGHT to TEN pages, very short for a research paper. If you cannot stretch your material to this minimum, you don't have enough material or—more likely—aren't examining it closely enough. Believe it or not, the chief reason people run out of things to say is that they have defined their topics too broadly. A narrow, tightly focused topic will allow you to get specific and dig into the finer shades of the topic, and finding enough to write about will be no problem. Avoid vague generalizations.

Rubric

The research essay will be graded according to the following rubric:

____/10	Organization
____/10	Sentence Fluency
____/10	Conventions
____/10	Ideas
____/10	Citations/Works Cited Page
____/10	MLA Format/3 <sup>rd</sup> person
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____/60	Total

Due Dates:

28 January: Detailed Proposal  
3 February: Annotated Bibliography  
7 February: Outline  
11 February: Rough Draft #1—at least SIX pages  
15 February: Rough Draft #2—Complete draft!  
18 February: Final Draft due

notes: all assignments must be typed  
attach this sheet to the back of your final draft